



...helping Arizona organizations succeed!

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Contact: Christopher Stevens

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARIZONA QUALITY ALLIANCE ANNOUNCES 2006 STATE QUALITY AWARD PROGRAM RECIPIENTS

PHOENIX, (November 20, 2006) – The Arizona Quality Alliance announced today the Recipients of the 2006 Arizona State Quality Awards Program.

The annual Arizona State Quality Awards Program recognizes Arizona organizations for performance excellence. The program, modeled after the Malcolm Baldrige Award criteria, provides not only an opportunity for recognition, but also valuable feedback on where an organization is positioned on the quality continuum.

The *Pioneer Award for Quality* honors organizations that have established and deployed fundamental quality systems within their operations, attaining high levels of performance excellence process implementation.

The *Showcase in Excellence Awards* recognize organizations for specific process excellence. This program allows organizations to focus on each of the processes and build toward a complete quality implementation. Organizations may apply for any organizational process they believe is exceptional, and are encouraged to relate the process to one of six categories aligned with the Baldrige criteria: Leadership; Strategic Planning; Customer and Market Focus; Measurement, Analysis and Knowledge Management; Human Resource Focus; or Process Management.

According to Chris Stevens, Executive Director of the Arizona Quality Alliance, "AQA is proud to continue its efforts in assisting Arizona organizations to achieve operational excellence. This year a higher percentage of recipients ended up being from the government sector – I am excited to see Arizona government getting involved with one of the best methodologies available to develop a higher level of organizational performance."

Recipients for the 2006 State Quality Awards Program are:

Pioneer Award for Quality (Large Category)

Library District - Maricopa County

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Showcase in Excellence Awards

- **Office of Environmental Services - AZ Dept of Transportation**– “Arizona Wildlife Linkages Initiative”
- **Juvenile Probation Department - Maricopa County**– “Special Supervision for Juveniles - A Balanced Approach”
- **Risk Management - Maricopa County**– “Roadbuilder Equipment Training Program”
- **John C. Lincoln Deer Valley Hospital** – “Pediatric Emergency Services”
- **Flood Control District - Maricopa County** – “Acquisition and Deployment of Digital Aerial Photography”
- **Environmental Services Department - Maricopa County** – “Vector Control Mosquito Abatement Program”
- 5 • **Adult Probation Department - Maricopa County** – “Financial Compliance Program”

Awards Banquet - Awards will be presented at a banquet to be held from 11am-1pm on Thursday, **December 14th, 2006** at the Chaparral Suites Resort, 5001 N. Scottsdale Road. Additional information about the Awards is available at www.arizona-excellence.com or by calling 602-364-7082. Applications for the 2007 program will be available in January, 2007.

The **Arizona Quality Alliance** addresses the very issues of efficiency, productivity, and effectiveness through its various programs and activities, including:

- Arizona State Quality Awards Program
- Annual Conference on Performance Excellence
(April 5th, 2007, Chaparral Suites Resort, 5001 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, Arizona)
- Networking opportunities
- Benchmarking Forum
- Informational workshops, conferences and seminars
- Resource library and interactive website